tory.

In 1900 Frank McKeen, D. E. Reagin, S. C. McKeen, J. J. Dannacher and O. McGregor reorganized the business, and for more than two years they employed 56 men who turned out 225 barrels a day. The plant closed down just before Prohibition.

Stephen Adair was the sole proprietor of a loose barrel factory on East Crawford Street near 13th Street. The factory occupied nearly a half-acre, employing 20 men the year round.

His son, Ed Adair, was foreman, and the annual output was from 50,000 to 70,000 barrels. He manufactured barrels of all kinds for the packing of salt, coffee, flour, etc., as well as boxes for packing all kinds of merchandise. Most of the product was used in the city, and only a small portion was shipped away.

In the southwestern part of the city, on the river, was an extensive plant owned by James Nichols, covering ten acres and furnishing employment to 75 skilled workmen.

This enterprise was the oldest and largest of its kind in this section of the state, including the only saw mill in the city. They produced lumber, flour barrels, staves, hoops, poultry crates, packing boxes, etc.

ST. CLAIR-SINER FAMILIES

Among the papers of the late Mrs. Herbert Briggs, were, found reams of notes she had made on her family tree. Before her marriage she was Laura Pound, daughter of William S. Pound and Mary Alice St. Clair; granddaughter of John M. St. Clair and Luvicia A. Mattox; and great-granddaughter of Eli St. Clair and Fannie Siner.

The local branch of the pioneer St. Clair family begins with John and Berthene (Joseph) St. Clair, who came to America and settled in Sussex County, Delaware. Their son, Eli, was born there in 1794, and could remember when he was very small playing on the ice frozen over Delaware Bay by sliding with a chair.

Eli St. Clair was still quite young when they left Delaware for Pennsylvania, coming through in a covered wagon. One day Eli was allowed to ride in the feed box on the end of the wagon, and while going up a very steep hill, he fell out.

The wagon train went on without him, and he wasn't missed for some time. The men went back to look for him, and found that he had been picked up by travelers coming along the same route. His many descendants considered it most fortunate that Eli escaped the wild animals and Indians and was rescued so promptly.

MIGRATION CONTINUES

John St. Clair and his family located in the Monongahela Valley in Pennsylvania in a small Scotch settlement. Here Eli could remember going down to Morgantown, Virginia, to get huge kettles to cook maple syrup into sugar.

They did not stay long in Pennsylvania, only long enough to raise bearing peach trees. Eli was a good-sized lad when they left for Kentucky. The family traveled down the Ohio River to Tar Springs, but settled about ten miles from the river. They traveled down river in a pirogue made from a large hollow tree big enough to hold both people and animals.

Tar Springs was given its name from the pure tar that came up from the spring water and floated on the surface. It was necessary to climb down a cliff to reach the springs on an Indian ladder made by cutting off the branches of a tree in such a way as to leave the stubs of tree limbs for foot holds.

The St. Clair family settled in Breckenridge County near Hardensburg, Kentucky, at a time when the Indians were very troublesome. The white settlers were decoyed out into the woods by the call for help from what they thought might be a neighbor or traveler but was an Indian. If they were foolish enough to leave their log cabins and fort, they were swiftly massacred.

Eli St. Clair married Fannie Siner, daughter of Benjamin and Polly (Maladay) Siner, in Kentucky in 1812. He was 18 years of age and she was about 15 years old.

One Sunday morning they returned from church to find their log house burned to the ground. Only a few days before they had sold their cattle and bought winter supplies, so they had lost everything.

However, family and neighbors rallied to their rescue and soon had another log cabin built and stocked with all necessary furniture and food. When the Indians came to the house and asked for food, Fannie gave them a crock of milk and some turnips, which they cut into bite size with their knives and ate raw.

MOVED TO SULLIVAN

The next move of the St. Clair family was from Kentucky to Sullivan County, Indiana, a few months before Eli's son, Nelson, was born in 1818. Two older children, Lavinia and Polly, were born in Kentucky. Benjamin was born in 1819; Andrew Jackson in 1820; Ellender Jane in 1822; Cynthia Eveline in 1823; Emily Maria in 1825; Clemsey Curry in 1829; Richard Lane in 1830, and John Morton in 1832, twelve in all.

Eli's parents came with them to Indiana and settled about two and a half miles south of where the town of Sullivan is now located. Their negro servant, Kizie, came with them. The father died in 1837; the mother in 1845, and both are buried in the McCammon Graveyard south and west of Paxton, Indiana.

Berthena (Joseph) St. Clair, an unusually intelligent woman, served her friends and neighbors as doctor and mid-wife in spite of being quite lame in her old age from having been thrown from her horse. She was on call day or night to deliver babies and tend the sick.

Eli St. Clair farmed for many years and would travel to New Orleans on a flatboat to market his produce and buy supplies.

SINER FAMILY

The Benjamin Siner family followed the St. Clairs to Indiana a few years later. In 1835 Eli moved from Sullivan County to Pierson Township, Vigo County. The Siners moved from Farmer's Prairie to Evan's Prairie on the Bono Road in Moses Evans' log cabin "away out across the branch." Benjamin Siner died there in 1826, at the age of 67 years.

After Fannie St. Clair died in 1864, Eli remained a widower until his death in 1892. For 30 years he lived with one or another of his children or had them live with him.

Described as a very large man, he lived to be 98 years old, and attributed his long life to the fact he never used intoxicants, ate corn bread and drank buttermilk. Now, several generations later, Eli has thousand of descendants.

THUMBNAIL SKETCHES

James Hook was born in Pennsylvania, July 8, 1815. In 1837, he came to Terre Haute and became a contractor and builder until 1853, the year the movement began to